UNCLASSIFIED



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

14 SEPTEMBER 2022

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Bakersfield – Teen Student Arrested After School Employee Exposed to Fentanyl

(U) Police responded to a report of a 13-year-old student at Chipman Junior High School possessing fentanyl. While police were on the way to the school, they received a report of a yard supervisor possibly overdosing after encountering the pills, authorities said. An officer arrived at the scene and administered Narcan, a medication used to treat opioid overdoses, to the school employee, who was then taken to a hospital in stable condition. Police said they discovered that the student brought to school about 150 fentanyl pills, which were disguised as Percocet painkiller pills.

SOURCE: 13 September 2022, Associated Press

(U) San Francisco – Twitter Whistleblower Reveals Concern China Could Collect Data

(U) Peiter "Mudge" Zatko, a famed hacker who served as Twitter's head of security until his firing in January, testified before the US Senate Judiciary Committee yesterday that some Twitter employees were concerned that the Chinese government would be able to collect data on the company's users. Zatko said on Tuesday he learned the FBI told the company that an agent of China's Ministry of State Security (MSS), the country's main espionage agency, was on the payroll at Twitter. It was not immediately clear if the alleged Chinese agent was still working at the company. SOURCE: 13 September 2022, Associated Press

(U) Vallejo – Coach Shot While Trying to Break Up Fight Outside School

(U) An investigation is underway after a Vallejo High School coach was shot and injured while trying to break up a fight outside of the school Tuesday afternoon, according to police. Officers responded to the school after a report of a shooting around 3:45 p.m. near one of the entrances to the campus. He was taken to the hospital with a non-life-threatening injury. At the time of the incident, police say there was a college fair going on, three classes in session and approximately 200 student-athletes on campus. SOURCE: 13 September 2022, ABC News

(U) Yuba City – Suspected Gang Member Arrested

(U) A suspected Blood gang member was arrested Monday in Yuba City in relation to a previous arrest that also involved a possible gang member who allegedly attempted to sell cocaine to undercover agents in a Walmart parking lot in August. According to the Yuba Sutter Narcotic and Gang Enforcement Task Force (NET-5), Rayshon Bishop, 46, of Yuba City allegedly supplied cocaine to Jakiem Gerard Halstead, 24, of Yuba City. Halstead, a "previously documented member," was allegedly found to be in possession of 15.40-grams of cocaine for the purpose of sales. Undercover NET-5 agents had been in contact with Halstead before his arrest. Allegedly, he had agreed to sell undercover agents cocaine. SOURCE: 13 September 2022, <u>LA Times</u>

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Election Disinformation via Text Message Increasing

(U) Washington – The night before a Kansas election on a historic statewide referendum last month, voters saw a lie about how to vote pop up on their phone. A blast of direct text messages falsely told

UNCLASSIFIED

voters that a "yes" vote would protect abortion access in their state, when the opposite was true, a yes vote would cut abortion protections from the state's constitution. The messaging effort and referendum both failed. But the campaign shows how easily a bad actor can leverage text messages, which still rely on the same basic technology from when developed in the 1990s, to spread disinformation with few consequences. While Social media companies have cracked down on disinformation, there is no company or regulatory agency that monitors the contents of all of the billions of text messages that are sent every day. American phone carriers employ some anti-spam measures, but it is clearly limited. SOURCE: 13 September 2022, NBC News

(U) Georgia – Authorities Seize Methamphetamine and Fentanyl in Gang-Related Operation

(U) Tift County – The Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) carried out a drug trafficking investigation that led to the seizure of \$710,000 in methamphetamine and fentanyl. Travarious Mike, 27, of Tifton, and Makylia Wilcox, 24, were both arrested on one count of trafficking fentanyl. Lamar Watson, 27, was arrested on one count of trafficking methamphetamine. The GBI said Watson is a known member of the Gangster Disciples street gang. The total amount of drugs seized included nearly 18-pounds of methamphetamine, 1.2-pounds of fentanyl, 5.9-ounces of heroin/fentanyl, "crack" cocaine, counterfeit prescription pills, and five firearms.

SOURCE: 13 September 2022, Associated Press

(U) Massachusetts - Device at University had Note Railing Against Facebook and Virtual Reality

(U) Boston – A Northeastern University staff member is being treated for minor injuries after a package delivered to the Boston campus exploded while they were opening it, according to the school. A spokesperson for Northeastern said the incident happened shortly after 7 p.m. at Holmes Hall, home to the university's creative writing program. A 45-year-old male staff worker, who was injured in the incident, had opened a hard-packed Pelican-type case, according to law enforcement sources. The case did not contain any explosive material but was pressurized, and when opened caused the reaction. Officials allegedly found an anonymous note mentioning virtual reality and Facebook, and warned against working with Mark Zuckerberg.

SOURCE: 13 September 2022, WCVB

(U) Texas - Cyberattack Frequency Increasing Along with Speed of Intrusions

(U) Austin – CrowdStrike's Falcon OverWatch threat hunting report reveals a record 50-percent year-over-year increase in hands-on cyberattack attempts, and distinct changes in related trends and adversary tactics. The fourth annual report examines global threat hunting operations from 1 July 2021 through 30 June 2022. The report identified more than 77,000 potential intrusions, approximately one every seven minutes. These are instances where proactive, human-led threat hunting uncovered adversaries actively carrying out malicious techniques at various stages of the attack chain, despite attackers' best efforts to covertly evade autonomous detection methods.

SOURCE: 13 September 2022, MSSP Alert

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Albania – Israel Offers Albania Assistance to Counter Iran Cyberattacks

(U) Tirana – Israel offered Albania, a NATO member country, cyber defense assistance on Monday, days after the Balkan state severed diplomatic ties with Iran, accusing Tehran of carrying out cyberattacks against it. Deputy Foreign Minister Idan Roll met with Albanian Foreign Minister Olta Xhacka in Berlin, where he "offered to share (Israeli) knowledge and experience in cyber defense" and "expressed Israel's appreciation" for Tirana's decision to expel the Iranian diplomats. Albania blames Iran for a 15 July cyberattack that temporarily shut down many Albanian government digital services and websites. Over

UNCLASSIFIED

the weekend, Albania's Interior Ministry accused Tehran of another attack that targeted the national police's computer systems.

SOURCE: 13 September 2022, YNet News

(U) Germany – Police Seize 2.3-Tons of Cocaine with Help from Peru

(U) Berlin – German police seized 2.3-tons of cocaine from Peru and arrested the alleged organizer of the major drug trafficking, the Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) said. In cooperation with Peruvian authorities, the cocaine smuggling was first only observed without preventing it in a so-called controlled delivery, according to German police on Monday. The largest amount of cocaine ever seized in Europe was found by customs investigators of the port of Hamburg in northern Germany in February 2021 when 16-tons of cocaine was detected in containers from Paraguay.

SOURCE: 13 September 2022, Business Standard

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
- (U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-636-2900.